

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP75

Senators Secretly Quiz Student Aides on CIA

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee held a three-hour secret inquiry into Central Intelligence Agency subsidies of the National Student Association.

After the session yesterday, Chairman J. William Fulbright, D-Ark., told newsmen: "It's none of your business" what went on.

There were two witnesses, both former officers of the student association.

The committee's independent inquiry ran counter to the stand of Majority Leader Mike Mansfield, who said again yesterday that he sees no need for a special investigation of the controversial subsidies.

Michael Wood, 21, formerly in charge of student association fund-raising programs, testified first. It was Wood who went to Ramparts Magazine with the original story of the CIA financing.

Wood then was dismissed while former NSA President Philip Sherburne, 24, was questioned.

Sherburne said later the committee asked him to appear, but he would not discuss his testimony.

Fulbright Won't Comment

"We've had an executive meeting," Fulbright said, "and I don't care to comment on it."

Sen. Wayne Morse, D-Ore., said the session left him more convinced that the CIA should be "drastically limited" in its activities.

"It certainly ought to be brought under open surveillance by legislative committees of the Congress," Morse said.

A special Senate subcommit-

tee headed by Sen. Richard B. Russell, D-Ga., already has questioned CIA Director Richard Helms about the student association financing and other subsidies allegedly supplied to private organizations.

Old Stuff, Says McCarthy

Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy, D-Minn., said yesterday's session was informal and produced little that has not already been made public.

"It's pretty much the story that is publicly known," McCarthy said.

He said some members of the committee already have interviewed NSA President Eugene Groves.

McCarthy said the Foreign Relations Committee does not plan to expand its inquiry to cover CIA subsidies outside the student field. But he said, committee members have been concerned about the impact of the CIA financing of the students and their programs.

It was Sen. Albert Gore, D-Tenn., who blew the cover on the committee's secret inquiry. He said Wood was being questioned.

FOIAb3b

CPYRGHT